



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



United States
Department of
Agriculture



Week of: July 31 – August 6, 2006

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CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 6, 2006

Conditions are dry again for many areas of the Commonwealth due to little rainfall and extreme temperatures. Days suitable for field work were 6.5. Temperatures were well above normal, and precipitation was below normal again this week. Pastures that had maintained good growth in earlier weeks have now begun to suffer from the heat. Cattle across the state are showing signs of stress as well. Extreme temperatures have dried up most of the surface moisture and affected crops, especially corn and soybeans. Early planted corn still looks good in some areas; however, most late planted corn is showing signs of stress. The soybean crop has perhaps been the most affected by the heat and dry conditions this week. Some late planted fields have slowed crop development considerably. Summer vegetables are reported to be in good condition, and quality is good. Vegetable producers continue to harvest tomatoes and peppers. Other activities this week included preparing for field days and educational events, cutting and baling hay, and preparing for fall planting.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 9, 2006	1	10	76	13
July 16, 2006	0	8	81	11
July 23, 2006	2	18	73	7
July 30, 2006	4	27	66	3
August 6, 2006	7	37	56	0

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WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 6, 2006

WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure from	TOTAL	Departure from	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	96	56	79	4	0.06	-0.71	1
Warrenton	96	64	82	7	0	-0.84	0
Winchester 7 SE	99	58	81	8	0.01	-0.82	1
Dale Enterprises	95	59	77	4	0.44	-0.4	2
WESTERN							
Glasgow	96	64	81	7	1.37	0.6	3
Roanoke AP	99	71	84	9	0	-0.98	0
Waynesboro	94	60	78	6	1.7	0.86	1
Staunton AG	91	59	78	6	1.32	0.48	1
CENTRAL							
Charlottesville	98	61	82	6	0.07	-1.05	1
Piedmont Res ST	97	64	83	8	0.05	-1	1
Bremo Bluff	103	67	86	10	0	-0.95	0
Richmond AP	102	66	86	9	0.28	-0.84	1
EASTERN							
Eastville	97	70	86	9	0	-0.88	0
Wallops Island	97	67	85	7	0	-0.84	0
Williamsburg	99	67	84	8	1.32	0.2	2
Keysville	98	66	83	7	0.06	-0.85	3
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	90	65	77	7	0	-0.9	0
Wytheville	91	61	75	5	0	-0.88	0
Saltville	92	65	77	7	0.06	-0.93	1
Richlands	90	64	76	10	0.09	-0.9	2
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	96	70	82	9	0	-1.14	0
Danville AG	100	73	86	8	0	-0.94	0
Chatham	96	67	81	7	0	-0.93	0
Martinsville	95	65	81	6	0.1	-0.9	1
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	102	71	87	10	0.44	-0.71	1
Oceana	100	67	86	8	0.02	-1.23	1
Emporia	99	67	84	8	0.08	-0.9	2
Newport News	101	65	87	10	0	-1.15	0

Departure from normal based on 1961-90 normals.

Precipitation Days=Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

WEATHER & CROPS

Week Of July 31 –August 6, 2006

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	4	21	41	31	3
Livestock	0	6	28	56	10
Other Hay	4	25	33	30	8
Alfalfa Hay	3	17	28	40	12
Corn	0	10	24	49	17
Soybeans	1	11	28	50	10
Flue-cured Tobacco	0	8	40	41	11
Burley Tobacco	0	1	16	55	28
Dark Fire-cured Tobacco	1	13	46	39	1
Peanuts	1	1	11	72	15
Cotton	0	3	15	55	27
All Apples	0	1	58	41	0
Peaches	6	9	27	57	0
Grapes	0	1	15	82	2

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT-WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Silked	93	88	92	90
Corn Dough	49	48	52	59
Corn Dent	27	18	13	23
Soybeans Blooming	69	53	65	61
Soybeans Setting Pods	27	15	0	27
Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested	15	4	8	13
Peanuts Pegged	85	80	92	89
Cotton Setting Bolls	80	75	91	88
Cotton Bolls Opening	4	0	0	6
Summer Potatoes Harvested	95	70	92	88
Summer Apples Harvested	70	30	30	61
Peaches Harvested	61	32	48	57

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by Extension Agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

AUGUSTA COUNTY (Thomas A. Stanley):

Corn is progressing well in the valley. Where planting was timely, corn is above average and should yield very well this year. Soybean stands are spotty. Pasture is maintaining condition, however rain would be nice before too long.

SUSSEX COUNTY (Kevin Wells):

Late planted soybeans are showing signs of stress. More rain would be helpful to bring them back around. Peanut producers have applied the first application of fungicides. Cotton is doing well, and much of the crop is blooming. The area has a good boll set. Crops are showing some signs of stress due to the hot temperatures. Morning dew helps, but more rain is needed.

BUCKINGHAM COUNTY (Mark Davis):

Extreme heat last week took a toll on both livestock and crops. Weight gains on calves weaned prior to selling were decreased due to the above average temperatures. Also, crops like corn, pasture, hay, and soybeans exhibited signs of heat damage

DINWIDDIE COUNTY (Mike Parrish):

High temperatures last week had a large impact on the crops. Soybeans are dying in spots and dropping blooms and small pods. Also, corn has given back greatly.

FAUQUIER COUNTY (Tim Mize):

Temperatures for the week were extreme. Cattle suffered, especially herds that were still breeding. Pastures have made good growth through the summer after receiving the July rains. Conditions are dry again in many areas of the county. Corn and beans look good throughout.

CULPEPER COUNTY (Carl Stafford):

Scattered light rain fell this week. Some areas are starting to show signs of moisture shortage with extreme heat boosting the rate of transpiration and evaporation.

VIRGINIA BEACH (Cal Schiemann):

Weekly rains have resulted in an excellent corn crop and a good soybean crop. Several heavy thunderstorms caused flooding in low areas resulting in drowning of some soybeans or conditions too wet to spray for weeds and grasses. Strawberry growers are pulling old plastic from land and preparing fields for fall planting.

CAMPBELL COUNTY (Scott Reiter):

The hot and dry conditions have greatly reduced crop yield potential this week. Late planted corn is 5-6 feet tall and twisted up. Early planted corn has some poor stands and is in the late milk-early dough stages. Some second cutting hay is being made with very poor yields to salvage the dried up grass. Flue tobacco harvest is starting in very

uneven fields. Some plants have been topped and harvested with knee high plants occurring in the same rows. No rain has been received in the last 10-14 days.

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY (John Howe):

Hot, dry conditions prevailed during this week. Crops and pastures suffered from the hot dry conditions. This could harm late planted corn and soybean yields.

KING GEORGE COUNTY (Regina Prunty):

Extreme temperatures caused additional soil moisture loss. Conditions are very dry with no immediate relief in sight. Some hay harvesting occurred during the week though growth is slowing with lack of water. Young beans are suffering from dry conditions.

ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY (Jon Repair):

Extreme heat has pulled away any and all surface moisture. Livestock have suffered this week as well from heat. This is a critical moisture time for corn. Extreme heat and no rain will certainly have an effect on corn yields as corn for the most part is just beginning to set ears. Pastures are beginning to take a beating. Substantial rain is needed throughout Rockbridge.

CAROLINE COUNTY (McGann Saphir):

Soil moisture levels have reached critical levels. If we don't get rain in the next few days there is a high possibility we will have major crop failures in corn, pasture, hay, and soybeans. Early planted corn looks fair, but later planted corn is showing signs of poor pollination and low grain development. Full season soybeans are trying to flower and set pods but moisture stress is causing flowers to abort and pod set has been affected. Double crop soybeans are shutting down and trying to survive until rain comes.